

PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

TITLE OF THE PROPOSAL: Revision of the Major in Sciences and Letters Curriculum in Art History (LAS)

SPONSOR: David O'Brien, Chair, Art History Program, obrien1@uiuc.edu, 384-7092

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: This revision of the undergraduate art history major provides a more rigorous and diverse curriculum. We are adding the following requirements:

- Replacing the requirement that students take two introductory, 100-level courses in the history of Western art with the requirement that they choose any three of the following courses: ARTH 111, ARTH 112, ARTH 113, ARTH 114, ARTH 115. Students cannot count both ARTH 112 and ARTH 115 toward this requirement.
- Requiring a junior seminar, ARTH 395.
- Requiring a senior capstone course, ARTH 495.
- Requiring a course in studio art

JUSTIFICATION: The new major provides an education that is more balanced and diverse culturally, temporally, and geographically. It allows students to choose from a variety of introductory courses that cover a variety of regions, cultures, and periods. It also requires a course that introduces majors to the concepts and methods of art history, and another that is designed to allow students to pursue an individual research topic in depth as a "capstone" to their education. Finally, it requires that students take one course in studio art. Exposure to the techniques used to create art is an essential component of an education in art history. Making art provides essential insights into its production and transforms students into more sensitive and understanding interpreters of art. The requirement is not burdensome, especially when one considers its value in terms of opening student's eyes to the special nature of the creative processes in the visual arts.

The new minimum required major and supporting course work equates to 48 hours, as opposed to 47 hours in the old curriculum. Because there are many hours, out of the total of 120 hours required to graduate, that remain undetermined by the new curriculum, students should have no difficulty satisfying the 48 hours required by the new curriculum.

Majors will be allowed to register for any Art and Design course without prerequisites or with permission of the instructor. The courses without prerequisites and that do not require permission of the instructor to enroll include:

ART 102	Elementary Drawing
ART 108	Ikebana: Japanese Floral Arts
ART 250	Writing with Video
ARTS 200	Introduction to Book Arts
ARTS 210	Ceramics Sculpture I
ARTS 230	Jewelry/Metals, I
ARTS 260	Basic Photography

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

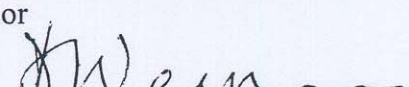
- a. Additional staff and dollars needed: No additional staff is required.
- b. Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.): The proposed program will reallocate the resources of the Art History Program internally but will not change course offerings beyond the changes already brought about by current budgetary pressures.
- c. Effect on course enrollment in other departments and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments: The only other curricula affected are those of the studio arts, and they have sufficient space to accommodate the influx of new students.
- d. Impact on library, computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.: none.

GUIDELINES FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: The revised major offers a more rigorous education in the basic skills and knowledge of art historians by providing more training in writing skills and research techniques, and a greater focus on methods, interpretive skills, and the development of original arguments. The curriculum is more diverse culturally, temporally, and geographically. It will also create majors who are better equipped to enter graduate school.

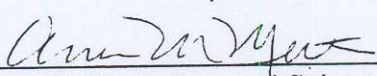
PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: Spring 2007

CLEARANCES:

 _____ Date: 9/14/06

Sponsor
 _____ Date: 9/14/06

School of Art and Design

 _____ Date: 9/19/06

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

_____ Date: _____

Office of the Provost

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:

Art History

www.art.uiuc.edu/a+d/index.html

Like the other humanities, the history of art as an undergraduate major offers an enrichment of and a preparation for life, rather than training for a specific occupation. The student who goes on to graduate work in the field can pursue a career in teaching, museum work, or employment in a commercial art gallery, or auction house.

Working in consultation with the LAS undergraduate adviser for art history in the School of Art and Design, each student will design a program of study that satisfies the requirements listed below. Students who wish to take a considerable number of studio courses as part of their major should enroll in the history of art option offered by the School of Art and Design within the College of Fine and Applied Arts.

Major in Sciences and Letters Curriculum

E-mail address:

Degree title: Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences

Minimum required major and supporting course work equates to 48 hours including 30 hours of Art History courses.

General education: The LAS General Education requirements are set up so students automatically complete the Campus General Education requirements.

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours

Departmental distinction: To be eligible for distinction, a student must earn a high grade point average and complete at least 4 semester hours of independent research to write a senior research paper. See the undergraduate adviser for details.

Hours Requirements

Supporting Requirements in Art

- 3 Studio Course in Art and Design
- 12 Supporting Requirements in Art History:
Choose 3 of the following¹:
- ARTH 111—Ancient and Medieval Art
 - ARTH 112—Renaissance and Modern Art
 - ARTH 113—Introduction to African Art
 - ARTH 114—Introduction to East Asian Art
 - ARTH 115—Art in Global Context
- 18 Art or Architectural History 200-400 Level
- 3 ARTH 395—Junior Seminar in Art History
 - 3 ARTH 495—Senior Seminar in Art History
 - 12 One upper level course from each of the following categories²:
 - African or East Asian Art or Architecture
 - Art or Architectural History before 1700
 - Art or Architectural History after 1700
- 15 200- to 400-level courses in supporting areas chosen with the approval of the adviser. Although the program in art history allows considerable latitude in the selection of such courses, they should be chosen with the goal of enhancing the student's understanding of the cultural context within which works of art and architecture have been created. Recent practice suggests that supporting courses will most commonly be drawn from such fields as anthropology, classics, history, literature, music and dance history, philosophy, psychology, and religious studies.

Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus.

All foreign language requirements must be satisfied. For students considering graduate work in Art History French or German is strongly recommended for the foreign language requirement. Other languages including Chinese or Japanese may be used with the approval of the adviser as the needs of the student's program dictate.

A Major Plan of Study Form must be completed and submitted to the LAS Student Affairs Office before the end of the fifth semester (60-75 hours). Please see your adviser.

1. Credit will not be given for ARTH 112 and ARTH 115.
2. Courses in the history of architecture, excluding ARCH 210, may be used with the approval of the adviser for as many as 9 hours of credit in meeting the requirement for 18 hours of art history at the 200-400 level, as indicated above.